

MESSANGER ROBS TELEGRAPH OFFICE

Traced to His Home, Arrested,
Confesses and Money Is
Recovered.

HOUSE IS SET ON FIRE

Flames Break Out at Two Places
at Same Time—Well-Known
Citizen Dead.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
PETERSBURG, Va., December 23.—
R. R. Rayburn, the Western Union
telegraph company's Petersburg man-
ager, discovered on entering his office
this morning that his desk had been
forced open, the cash-box broken, and
\$25 in bills stolen. He at once reported
the robbery to the police, and in about
two hours Chief of Police Bagland and
Detectives Eames and Heelan arrested
Richard Staples, one of the small mes-
senger boys, at his father's residence
in Blandford. Staples confessed, and
said he had given the money to a
young white man named George Alley
for safekeeping. Alley, when found
by the police, at first denied having it,
but afterwards acknowledged posses-
sion of the money, most of which was
recovered.

Investigations in the telegraph office,
which is on the street floor of the
old-Fellows building, on Sycamore
street, show that the office was en-
tered through the rear door, which
must have been opened by Staples,
while he was on duty yesterday after-
noon, the robbery occurring probably
between 1 and 3 o'clock, while the office
was closed. The hatchet with which
the boy forced open the roller-top desk
and broke the cash box was found in
the place.

An Incendiary Fire.

Fire, apparently of incendiary origin,
was discovered about half-past 7 o'clock
last evening in two parts of the frame
residence on Byrd street, owned and
occupied by Edward L. Stokes, colored.
Stokes and his wife, who were the only
occupants of the house, were at church
at the time, the fire being discovered
by passersby, who investigated the
cause of smoke from the building and
found a blaze in a hall on the second
floor and in a room on the second
floor. Quick work by the fire depart-
ment saved the building, with only
the loss of a bureau and the soaking
of the household effects. The loss is
covered by insurance.

Two Deaths.

Mr. John Williamson died last night
at the home of his stepfather, Mr.
Walter E. Quarles, in this city, after
an illness of several weeks. Mr. Wil-
liamson was in his fifty-second year,
and was formerly a well-known and
popular baseball player. He left Pe-
tersburg for Newport News about ten
or twelve years ago, and was a member
of the police force in the latter city
for a number of years, returning to
Petersburg about a year ago. He is
survived by his mother and stepfather
and by one brother, J. G. Quarles.

Mr. William Henry Harrison died
early yesterday morning at the resi-
dence of his sister, Mrs. Maria Tyler,
on Grove avenue. From heart disease,
Mr. Tyler heard him breathing very
heavily about 4 o'clock in the morning,
and on entering his room found him
unconscious. Death resulted in a short
while. Mr. Harrison was forty-nine
years old, and was a well-known em-
ployee of the Atlantic Coast Line Rail-
road Company. He was a member of
the Second Presbyterian Church, and of
Nelson Lodge, Knights of Pythias. The
funeral took place this afternoon from
the residence of the Rev. William Mc-
Cormick, assisted by the Rev. J. T. Bos-
man, conducting the services.

Fatal Wreck.

Mr. James David Tatum and Miss

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been
in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of
and has been made under his personal
supervision since its infancy.
Allow no one to deceive you in this.
All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but
Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of
Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Pare-
goric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It
contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic
substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms
and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind
Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation
and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the
Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep.
The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

In Use For Over 30 Years.

THE CASTORIA COMPANY, 77 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Minnie May Burton, a popular young
couple of this city, were married Sat-
urday evening at the residence of the
Rev. P. W. Moore, pastor of the Sec-
ond Baptist Church, who performed the
ceremony.

TWO POLICES REDUCED.

Norfolk and Western Orders That Half

Men Be Laid Off.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
BRISTOL, Va., December 23.—Offi-
cial orders were received here today
from the general offices of the Norfolk
and Western Railway directing that
the car inspecting and yard forces on
Petersburg about a year ago. He is
survived by his mother and stepfather
and by one brother, J. G. Quarles.

ONE NEGRO SHOTS ANOTHER

WHILE THEY ARE HUNTING

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

SPOTSVYLVANIA, Va., December 23.—

On Saturday last, as George Samuel

and Harry Scott, two colored boys, were

out with their guns hunting in get-
ting through a wire fence hurriedly

the hammer of Scott's gun hung and

was sprung by the wire and the gun

discharged, the entire load entering

the fleshy part of George Samuel's leg

between the ankle and knee, produ-
cing a ghastly wound, tearing out two

muscles and severing several arteries

and tendons. Samuel was entirely dis-
abled, and had to be carried in a bug-

gy two miles before he could get the

attention of a surgeon.

AFTER THE LAW-BREAKERS

Negroes Fined for Crap Shooting and

Illegal Sale of Whiskey.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

FRONT ROYAL, Va., December 23.—

Chief of Police Collins, assisted by two

plain clothes men, raided last night a

crap shooting joint and arrested fifteen

darkies, eight of whom were fined by

Mayor Waller to-day.

Six colored men were arrested to-day

by Chief Collins for the illegal sale of

whiskey. Each was given a \$20 fine

and sixty days in jail.

Will Erect Office Building.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

STAUNTON, Va., December 23.—The

Augusta county supervisors to-day

voted to spend \$3,000 in the erection of

a building at Waynesboro for the joint

use of the officials of the South River

District and the town of Waynesboro.

There will also be a lockup in the

building, with steel cages, and the

third floor will be an auditorium.

Waynesboro furnishes the lot.

Indorse Smith for Judge.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

ROANOKE, Va., December 23.—The

Roanoke Bar Association, at a called

meeting this afternoon, unanimously

indorsed Roy L. Smith's candidacy for

the Roanoke judgeship. The contest

will be between Smith and Walter R. Sta-
ples, and the friends of the latter did

not attend the meeting.

Spend Christmas at the famous

McKlenburg Hotel, Chesapeake City, Va.

the pleasure of a Virginia country

house party.

LAW DOES NOT APPLY TO CITIES OF STATE

Judge Martin So Holds in De-
ciding Furniture Case Against
Board of Education.

BURRUS RELEASED ON BAIL

Little Doubt Felt That He Will
Be Promptly Acquitted—For
Fewer Saloons.

NORFOLK, December 23.—In the
Law and Chancery Court to-day Judge
William E. Martin rendered a decision
in favor of the city of Norfolk in the
case brought by the State Board of
Education to prevent the carrying out
of a contract with a Chicago firm for
the desks installed at the new Omo-
hundred Street school, the school officials
claiming that the contract had not met
with their approval, and that under the
State laws this is necessary.

The court's decision knocks out the
enforcement of the law so far as cities
are concerned. Judge Martin's ruling
that the law governs only county
school boards and gives the city the
right under existing laws to purchase
desks as it sees fit. The court points out
that there are two statutes, one con-
trolling counties and the other cities,
and that the one referring to cities has
no such provision in reference to fur-
niture. Containing such, the two laws
would be identical.

The court further held that the State
Board at first interpreted the law as it
has done, sending notices of the pro-
vision only to county school boards,
and failing to send the notices to the
Norfolk City Board, the latter could not
be prevented from carrying out a con-
tract already entered into. The deci-
sion sustains the previous ruling of
Judge Hancock. An appeal will be en-
tered.

Burrus Out on Bail.

Creighton Burrus, who shot and
killed John Crisp, colored, at Lynnhaven
Saturday, for insulting his wife,
was released to-day on nominal bail.
This was promptly furnished. The find-
ing of the coroner's jury was that the
negro came to his death from gun-
shot wounds inflicted by a double bar-
rel shotgun in the hands of Burrus.
The court's decision is in favor of Bur-
rus, and there is no doubt that he will
quickly receive his discharge by a
jury made up of negroes. It develops that
Mrs. Burrus was even more than in-
sulted; that the negro attempted an
assault.

For Fewer Saloons.

The movement was yesterday in-
augurated in Norfolk for the reduction
of the number of licensed saloons. The
Sunday-schools of the city head the
movement.

The initial step was taken by the
Freemason Street Baptist Church Sun-
day-school, passing a resolution ask-
ing Council to not allow the number of
licenses for the next year to ex-
ceed seventy-five. Other schools are
expected to join in the movement.

Thieves at Work.

Thieves entered the residence of Mr.
Nelson, 1203 Green Street, Portes-
mouth, some time during Sunday night,
and got away with \$300. It was one
of the boldest robberies ever com-
mitted in this section. The thief en-
tered the bedroom and rifled his pants
pockets, lying on a chair not three
feet from his head. So far as can
be discovered no stupefying drug was
used. Mr. Nelson did not know his
loss until this morning when dress-
ing. It is believed the robbery was
planned by some one who knew he
had a large sum of money on his per-
son.

W. W. Griffin, of South Norfolk, and
a well-known "X" man, was arrested
in the Police Court this morning on
the charge of burglary. He was ar-
rested on suspicion, a citizen point-
ing out to him that he was a burglar.
He was merely in that section of the
city searching for which he had been
informed.

SENT ON TO GRAND JURY

Richard Ferrell to Answer for Killing

Heywood Garland.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, Va., December 23.—

Richard Ferrell, a negro youth, who
on Saturday night shot and killed Hey-
wood Garland at the home of Mr. Fer-
rell's mother, on Doe Street, following
a dispute between the two, was sent
on to the grand jury this morning on
his own statement. He was remanded
to jail without bail.

Several witnesses were examined,
the principal one being Jane Ferrell,
the mother of the accused, whose evi-
dence was strongly against her son.
She stated in substance that Ferrell
had walked in and deliberately shot
Garland without any provocation what-
soever; that afterwards he was in her
presence; "I said I would kill him,
and I have killed him." The verdict of
the grand jury was that Garland came to
his death by reason of a pistol shot
through his heart, the ball being fired
by Richard Ferrell.

MAY BE EMERSON

Danville Police Think They Have Man

in Answer to Charge of Murder.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, Va., December 23.—

Officer C. W. Price arrested to-day a
man whom he believes to be
Emerson, wanted at Anderson S. C.
for murder, and for whose arrest there
is a reward of \$1,000. The man gives
his name as Sam Bush, and has re-
peatedly been arrested for disorderly
conduct and for being drunk and disor-
derly. Upon being searched he was found to
have a pistol on his person, and this
charge was added to his list.

The authorities at Anderson have
been communicated with, and an effort
is being made to find out whether Bush
is Emerson or not.

RABID DOG CREATES PANIC

Enters Place Crowded With Shoppers.

Snapping at Everything.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, Va., December 23.—

Foaming at the mouth and snapping
at everything in sight, a big mastiff,
the owner of which is unknown, crept
into the Arcade late this afternoon, cre-
ating a panic. The place was crowded
with shoppers, and several were slight-
ly hurt. Dogs from the street were
two patrolmen fired eight times be-
fore killing the dog.

PREACHING IN THE OLD CHURCH.

Rev. Mr. Redinger Heard by Large

Congregation—Baptist Church.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BOYDTON, Va., December 23.—The

Rev. B. F. Redinger, of the Presbyter-
ian Church, in Lynchburg, preached
before a large congregation in the Meth-
odist Episcopal Church to-day. Mr.
Redinger is a fluent, as well as ear-
nest preacher, and his sermon made
a deep impression. This church has
been closed for many years, until re-
cently, and an effort is now being
made to revive it.

Mr. Harvey L. Wilson, editor of the
Norfolk Afternoon Ledger-Dispatch,
was present, and after the service here
he returned to his post.

Mr. C. F. Baskerville, Commis-
sioner of the State Board of Educa-
tion, is preparing to assume the new du-
ties of his office. Both are good men.

R. L. Christian & Co.'s

Make this Christmas a better one than you've ever enjoyed. Our special preparations enable us to offer the finest stock of Holiday Groceries, Wines, Liquors, Cigars, Nuts, Confections, Cakes, etc., we've ever had. Don't delay your order! Come in now. 'Twill do you good just to look around our big store. Come in!

Christmas Offerings

Xmas Nuts

Our stock of Holiday Nuts this year is the best we've ever bought. We were fortunate enough to purchase a quantity of Fine Louisiana Soft Shell Pecans, extra large—perhaps the only lot of the kind on sale now in this city.

Other offerings in this line are: Long Nuts, Filberts, Pinonuts, Paper Shell Nuts, Tarragon Almonds, Mayette Greenish Walnuts, Brazil Nuts, and Brazil Pods, Mixed Nuts, Pecans, shelled whole, also, Shelled Almonds and English and Black Walnuts, Hickory, Pistachio and Pignolia Nuts.

Home-Made Mince-meat, Fruit

Cake and Plum Pudding

We've made special preparations in this line, and are ready to fill your orders promptly and with the best goods of the kind made.

Celebrated English Crackers

Full assortment of Huntley & Palmers' Fine Crackers, packed in fancy tins, in globes, plates, baskets and other shapes; also in bulk, imported direct by us.

The Most Acceptable Gift.

Elaborate assortment of the finest Groceries, to which every country has contributed its best. All goods sold by us are guaranteed under the U. S. Pure Food Law.

We pay special attention to packing boxes of everything that's good to eat or drink, and nothing will be more appreciated than a Xmas present from our large and varied stocks of Foreign and Domestic Groceries, Liquors and delicacies of all kinds. Don't forget to include one of our famous Gordon Smithfield Hams cooked. We can ship these to all parts of the world and remind your distant friends of Old Virginia.

Branded and Fresh Fruits

Agents for Gordon & Dilworth and Miss North Genesee Jam

Kitchen, absolutely the two best packers of the fruits in glass to be had, including Branded or Picked or Fresh Peaches; Cherries, white or red; Pears, Southern Flgs, Marrows and Gooseberries.

R. L. Christian & Co.

Agents for Huyler's Candies

A Man is known

BY THE CANDY he sends

OF COURSE

She Wants

KNOWN THE WORLD OVER

FOR

PURITY,

QUALITY & FLAVOR

Sold at Our Stores & by

Sales Agents Everywhere.

THERE CAN BE NO MORE DELICIOUS

GIFT FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

From one-half to five-pound boxes of Chocolates and Bonbons; also a line of fancy filled baskets.

Large variety of other good grades of Chocolates and Bonbons in boxes and loose by the pound, and plain Candies.

Branded and Fresh Fruits

Agents for Gordon & Dilworth and Miss North Genesee Jam

Kitchen, absolutely the two best packers of the fruits in glass to be had, including Branded or Picked or Fresh Peaches; Cherries, white or red; Pears, Southern Flgs, Marrows and Gooseberries.

Conserved Fruits.

Absolutely best grade of goods to be found on any market. All varieties—Strawberries, Walnuts, Prunes, Apples, Peas, Figs, Limes, Cherries, Pineapples, Angelique, Violets, Rose Leaves, Bishop's Calif, Java Prunes stuffed with walnuts, almonds or ginger; one-pound boxes, fancy baskets and boxes of French packed assorted conserved fruits.

Malaga Raisins, Figs and Dates.

All of the best quality obtainable. Malaga Raisins in specially packed decorated boxes, very appropriate for gifts; also fancy packages or jars of Dates and Figs, stuffed with nuts or plain.

Xmas Cigars.

A large and carefully selected stock of the best brands of Imported and Key West Cigars, including Carolas, Cabanas, Vellars, Henry Clays, Garlands, Don Quixotes, Romys and Julietts, Belindas and others.

Distributors of Websters, R. A. Bachin & Co.'s and Park & Tilford's M. Pavonita Key West Cigars, packed in boxes of 25, 50 or 100, ranging from \$1.00 to \$10.00 per 100.

Holiday Liquors.

Being the largest importers in the South of the Wines, Liquors and Cordons, we can offer a complete stock of Sherries, Ports, Madeiras, Rhine and Moselle Wines, Claret, Sauternes and Burgundies, Cognacs or Potlucks' Cordons, Cognac Brandies, Scotch and Irish Whiskies, Jamaica and Santa Croix Rums; also Virginia Mountain, Gibson and High Sake straight and blended Whiskies, California and Virginia Apple Brandy.

For the strong—that they
may keep their strength.
For the weak—that they
may regain their strength.
For the young that they
may grow in strength.

Uneda Biscuit

the most nutritious food made
from wheat.

Clean, crisp and fresh.

In moisture and
dust proof packages.

5¢ NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

FATAL WRECK FROM SWITCH BEING OPEN

Fast Freight on Norfolk and
Western Dashes Into Open
Switch at Blackstone.

CONDUCTOR WILLIAMS KILLED

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BLACKSTONE, Va., December 23.—

An open switch was the cause of a
severe and fatal wreck on the Nor-
folk and Western at this place at
10 o'clock this morning, resulting in
the overturning of the engine and the
wrecking of five cars. Conductor Joe
Williams, of the ill-fated train, was
caught beneath the overturned cab of
the engine and has his left arm and
left leg broken, beside receiving inter-
nal injuries, as a result of which he
died about 1:30 o'clock.

The wrecked train was No. 85, a fast
freight. The local train had just
set some loaded coal cars upon the
siding of the Blackstone Fuel Com-
pany and left the switch open. The
fast freight came dashing through at
the rate of about twenty miles an
hour and ran into the siding. The en-
gineer, L. W. Herbert, saw the danger
and applied his emergency brakes,
reversing his engine and jumped to
safety. The fireman, I. C. Powles, did
likewise, as did also the front brake-
man, a colored man, Ben Ross. For-
tunately for them they jumped to the
opposite side from which the engine
and cars turned, otherwise they, too,
would have been caught beneath the
wreckage.

Caught Under Engine.

Conductor Williams was riding in
the cab and was caught in that when
the engine ran off the trestle of the
coal yard and turned upon its side.

He was soon gotten out by cutting
through the side of the cab and re-
leased from his perilous position, an
escaping steam was burning him badly.

Two of the three coal cars which
were upon the siding were shot full
length ahead